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Northern Region News

A Newsletter for Employees and Retirees

ISSUE 8

August 1996

Visitor Center Opened at Big Timber, Montana

by Stephen J. Brady,
Big Timber (MT)
District Ranger,
Gallatin National Forest.



New Visitor Center at Big Timber, Montana

Big Timber, Montana, has a new visitor center, thanks in part to a \$45,000 Rural Development Grant from the USDA Forest Service. The facility, next to an Interstate 90 off-ramp at Big Timber, is operated by the Sweet Grass Chamber of Commerce.

On June 15th, the Chamber of Commerce dedicated the \$172,000 facility. The dedication recognized the many groups, individuals, and government agencies that made the project possible. The Forest Service came in for special recognition.

The dedication provided opportunities for local ranchers to place their "brands" on the exterior of the building for a modest fundraising fee. The Chamber felt that the Forest Service had pretty well paid

their "fee" so invited Big Timber District Ranger Stephan Brady to place the Forest Service brand as the first brand on the new visitor center building at no extra charge. So, the iron that branded "Horner", "Badger", "Yellow Dog", and the rest of the Big Timber RD stock was used to proudly place the Forest Service brand on the new log cabin.

Even as the smoke settled from the Forest Service brand, the local Chamber staff was already answering a mid-westerner's question about the best places to visit near Livingston and Big Timber.



District Ranger Stephen Brady put the first brand on the visitor center.

Photos by Mary Jo Engle, Big Timber, Montana

NEZ PERCE TRAIL

Auto Tour Brochure Traces Part of Historical 1877 Route

by Dan Gard,
RO Public & Governmental Relations

"Early on the evening of August 7, the Nez Perce had reached Izhkumzizlakik, their old campsite on the Big Hole River trail to and from the buffalo country." from Hear Me, My Chiefs by L.V. McWhorter

For generations the Nez Perce Indians visited the Big Hole Valley of southwestern Montana to hunt fish and dig camas. Their friends, the Salish, called this valley Izhkumzizlakik: home of the small ground squirrel.

In August of 1877, Izhkumzizlakik became a place of bloodshed when approximately 800 Nez Perce men, women and children camped along the banks of the Big Hole River were attacked by soldiers and civilian volunteers under the command of Colonel John Gibbon. The nontreaty Nez Perce had been fleeing military forces since June when General O. O. Howard ordered them to relocate from their native homelands to the Lapwai reservation in eastern Idaho.

When the smoke cleared from the battle of the Big Hole, scores of Nez Perce lay dead or wounded. Twenty-nine of Gibbon's men died, with another forty injured. The Nez Perce buried their dead, gathered their wounded, and fled southward through the Big Hole, Horse Prairie and Lemhi valleys. Today, much of their route is encompassed within the Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF and Salmon-Challis NF.

In 1993, Beaverhead NF researchers began studying this important section of the Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail (NPNHT) to better document route location and historic events for future management and interpretation. In June of that year Chris

Hagelin, a graduate student from Portland State University, began work on the Gibbons Pass to Skinner Meadows portion of the NPNHT. Hagelin spent many hours in the field using maps and written recollections of the combatants to ascertain the probable route of the Nez Perce and the military.

The following summer Dan Gard, a University of Montana graduate student, conducted research on a second portion of the NPNHT from Skinner Meadows to Leadore, Idaho. He developed an in-depth history of the region to compliment the trail research and provide a clearer picture of life in the Big Hole and Lemhi basins at the time of the Nez Perce conflict.

Working in conjunction with the Salmon-Challis NF, Deb Gale, recreation forester on the Wisdom District, is using the information from this study to develop an auto tour brochure showing the approximate route and describing events and actions as the Nez Perce and the military passed through southwestern



Nez Perce Warriors captured Colonel Gibbon's Mountain Howitzer during the Battle of the Big Hole, August 8, 1877. The Howitzer is on display at the Big Hole National Battlefield, Wisdom, Montana.
Photo by Jock Whitworth, National Park Service



Montana and eastern Idaho. Publication of the Beaverhead-Deerlodge NFs travel brochure is planned for spring of 1997.

The research carried out by the Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF helps to highlight the history of the Nez Perce and the clash of cultures that led to the tragic conflict of 1877.

Encompassing five states, the Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail (NPNHT) crosses Federal, State, county, private and tribal lands as it winds its way 1,100 miles from Wallowa Lake in Oregon to Bear Paw Battlefield in northeast Montana. Following its designation as a National Historic Trail in 1986, the Forest Service was given overall responsibility for administration of the NPNHT, working in partnership with the National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, State and local agencies, and members of the Nez Perce Tribe in Lapwai, Idaho and Nespelem, Washington.



Anaconda Job Corps Center.

At the U.S. Department of Agriculture's recent Honor Awards Ceremony in Washington, D.C., the Anaconda Job Corps Center was presented a distinguished performance award.

The prestigious award presented, on behalf of the Center to Center Director Bill Case, for "personal and professional excellence for distinguished innovation and sustained superior performance in training American youths." The award is given only to those groups of U.S. Department of Agriculture employees who, as a team, made a significant contribution or accomplished a significant task. Anaconda Job Corps Center accomplishments include:

- Being the First Forest Service Job Corps Center to hire a full-time placement officer and placing more students in jobs after completing their training than any other Center on record.
- Strong community support.
- High School accreditation.
- Cooperation with Western Montana College for college credit for courses.
- Outstanding record for students' length of stay.

Anaconda Center Receives USDA National Honor Award

*by Dixie L. Dies, Public Affairs Officer,
Bitterroot National Forest, Hamilton, Montana*



ANACONDA JOB CORPS CENTER BUSINESS MANAGEMENT STUDENTS display the USDA distinguished performance award given to the Center at the National Honor Awards Ceremony in Washington, D.C. Left to right: Bob Jones, Leigh Sallani, Mary Brown and Tyrone Yazzie.

It's a notable recognition for the Anaconda Center, one of the eighteen Forest Service operated centers. It is the only one that has consistently earned high performance ratings for seven continuous years in education, residential living, counseling, vocation and administration.

Employees recognized are: William Case, Robert Steffan, Michael Johns, William Johns, James Johnston, William Kauhi, Robert Harris, Edgar Whittington, Herald Moses, Orille Latray, Robert Hogan, Joseph Olk, Laurence Heaphy, Dale Eccleston, Patricia Trotter, William Buckler, Majorie Smith, Ralph Villa, Margaret McDonald, Frank Moreni, Raymond Tarkalson, Phillis Munson, Thomas Callaghan, Gerald Flom, Loren Regan,

Samuel Davies, Larry Baldwin, Patrick Yasenak, James Kaney, James Given, Martin Dunn, Judrth Lorengo, Robert Olsen, Gregory Martin, Maxine Latry, Alice Bernadino, Ronald Haffey, Gerald Russell, Donald Prinkki, Alice Heaney, Rosemary Corrigan, Kristina Wyant, Michael Ricci, Leslie Casey, Shelia Liebetrau, James Johnson, Thomas Hotalen, Murray McIntyre, Patrick Connors, James Killoy, Allyn Harris, Leland Erickson, Michael Jeffrey, Robert Wolter, William Connolly, Scott McNeil, Jack Hancock, Melvin Salmonsens, Ed Skubitz, Jim Keane, Robert Sturm, Raymond Boylan, Marilyn Sparks, Donna McLean, Bonita Smith, Jean Leith, Beverly Faber, Tammy Olk, Rosemarie Thomas, Launa Sprauer, Mary Whittington, Juliann Chor, and Marie McLean.

Northwest Children's Home Volunteers Adopt, Maintain Portion of L&C Trail

by Tim Lewis, Lead Forestry Technician,
Pierce RD, Kamiah, Idaho, Clearwater NF

Four and a half miles of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail are again available for public use, thanks to volunteers from the Northwest Children's Home in Lewiston, Idaho.

The volunteers included six boys, ages 14-17, who live at the children's home, and staff members. They were the first to volunteer to clear and maintain the trail this year.

On an outing May 11, the group cleared windfelled trees and brush from the trail east of the Lewis and Clark Grove on the Clearwater National

Forest's Pierce District. They also installed trail restriction signs and a guide sign along the route.

The group formally "adopted" this section of trail and has been maintaining it since 1988. Signs at the Clark Tree trailhead and the Small Prairie Camp trailhead were installed to recognize the volunteer work of the boys and staff from the children's home.

Other portions of the trail are maintained by local troops of the Boy Scouts of America from the Inland Northwest Boy Scout Council.



"We really appreciate the contributions of these groups to our trail program", said Doug Gober, Pierce District Ranger.

"With their help, 15 miles of trail following and paralleling the historic route, between Lolo Campground and Mex Mountain, should be open for foot travel later this year."



National Forest Foundation Initiates Membership Campaign

J. Lamar Beasley, Washington, D.C., executive director of the National Forest Foundation (NFF), recently announced the kickoff of the NFF membership campaign by signing up USDA Forest Service Chief Jack Ward Thomas.

Thomas said "The Forest Service is extremely fortunate to have NFF as its partner, and I am proud to be a member."

Beasley, a retired Forest Service employee, said the growing population and increasing use of the 191 million acres of forests and related resources makes this the opportune time for the NFF and the Forest Service to strengthen their partnership and the management of the forests

by involving individuals who care about conservation and the environment.

"Our membership program has been designed around Forest Service employees as the primary base for support. We hope to use the NFF program to better communicate with Forest Service retirees, volunteers and partners." He invited Forest Service employees and retirees to join NFF and participate in the Foundation programs.

The NFF was created by Congress to be the official nonprofit partner for the Forest Service and bring people together to care for the nation's forests. "The most important benefit of the NFF is the op-

portunity to actively participate in management and conservation of our forest land for future generations," Beasley explained.

In addition to the personal benefit of joining, members will receive a personalized membership card, a foundation vision, mission and beliefs document, an automobile decal, a Smokey Bear fire prevention sticker, a quarterly newsletter and a "Guide to the National Forests."

For a copy of the NFF membership folder and additional information about NFF, contact membership coordinator John Henshaw via DG j.Henshaw:W01C or telephone him at (202) 501-5554.

Bitterroot Honors: "Dot" Goodrich '96 NATIONAL VOLUNTEER Award Recipient

by Cass Cairns, Information Assistant,
Bitterroot National Forest, Hamilton, Montana



National Volunteer Honoree Dorothy Goodrich accepts a special gift from the Bitterroot NF, presented by Supervisor Steve Kelly.

The Darby (MT) Ranger District Historical Visitor Center, Bitterroot NF, has many hard working volunteers. Without the volunteers, the Center would not be able to remain open seven days a week, usually from May 1 through Thanksgiving.

The Center is staffed entirely by volunteers. One of the volunteers, Dorothy "Dot" Goodrich, is one of four volunteers in the nation named to receive the 1996 National Volunteer Award for Retiree Volunteer Service.

In 1992, at the spry age of 82, Goodrich (known affectionately by everyone as "Dot") started volunteering her time and talents at the Historical Visitor Center in Darby.

This grew out of an evening bridge game where Dot mentioned, to the Project Coordinator for the Historic Center, that she needed something new and interesting to do. That's all it took. Dot started working at the Center and has been going full speed ever since.

A native Montanan and long-time resident of Darby, Dot has a rich understanding of the local history. She is a warm and caring individual with unlimited energy. Those who work with Dot admire her and think fondly of her, as do the multitude of visitors she has served in the past four years. Dot coordinates all of the staffing and scheduling of the volunteers working in the Center. During the 1995 season, the Historical Visitor Center served nearly 3,000 visitors. They came from every State and seven foreign countries.

When the Forest and the District were notified that Goodrich had been selected to receive the 1996 National Volunteer Award, wheels started turning to prepare for a special celebration. The Darby RD, with the assistance of other employees on the Forest, including a group of Trapper Creek Job Corps students, under the direction of Recreation Assistant Gay Doyle, started organizing a reception and award ceremony and special dinner, for April 23, at the Darby Community Clubhouse.

More than 80 friends, families and co-workers attended the ceremony. Regional Forester Hal Salwasser set aside the date so he could personally present the national award to Dot. The community became involved and agreed to help prepare the dinner and make arrangements for the events of the evening. Excellent food and service were provided by the Darby School Odyssey of the Mind and Future Problem Solver teams as part of the

students' fund-raising in preparation for the upcoming national competition. Fifty-three people enjoyed the supper, music and entertaining skits.

The Bitterroot NF recognized Goodrich for her dedication and hard work. Bitterroot NF Supervisor Steve Kelly and Darby District Ranger Tom Wagner presented special gifts to Goodrich.

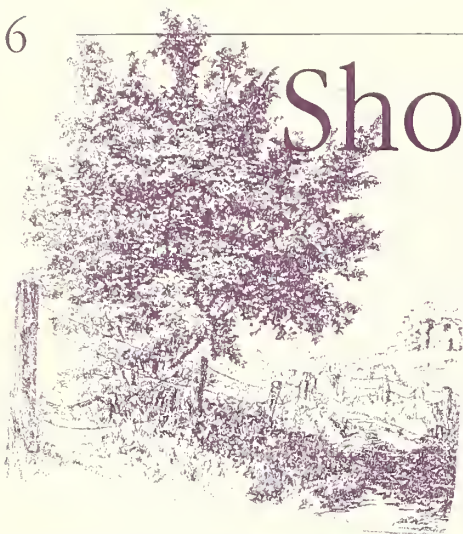
Co-workers, friends and the Trapper Creek Job Corps Center also presented gifts to the National Volunteer honoree. Support and endorsement of the award was evident throughout the community and during the evening festivities.

Dot Goodrich is a remarkable person. The Bitterroot National Forest is proud to have her represent them.

She is a living example of the Forest Service mission quest of providing the best in service to our customers. Also, Dot is an example of one of her favorite sayings, "someone doing what they like and liking what they do."



Regional Forester Hal Salwasser joins in the celebration of the naming of Dorothy Goodrich as a National Volunteer for 1996. Goodrich is seated to Salwasser's left at the reception in the Darby Community Clubhouse. Photos by Cass Cairns.



Short Notes

KAZAKHSTAN FORESTRY OFFICIALS VISIT R-1, July 20-27. Don Stevenson, R-1 retiree, Missoula, working through the Cochran Fellowship Program (USDA Foreign Agriculture Service, International Cooperation & Development) and the Volunteers in Overseas Cooperative Assistance, brought four top Kazakhstan forestry officials to Montana to meet with Federal and State officials, scientists, wood products industry officials and university faculty members. They visited with Regional Forester Hal Salwasser and staff, University of Montana School of Forestry Dean & faculty, State Forester, Inter-mountain Station labs, Lubrecht Experiment Forest, log home manufacturing operation, Missoula Aerial Fire Depot, Lick Creek Experimental Forest and Trapper Creek Job Corps Center, Bitterroot National Forest, lumber mill at Bonner, MT., logging site, and a home construction site.

COOPERATIVE EFFORT TO CONSERVE Montana's native westslope cutthroat trout. State and Federal officials have put an "aggressive" short-term strategy into effect, designed to conserve Montana's native westslope cutthroat trout. The strategy identifies immediate steps to be taken to improve or maintain the fish's habitat in the Beaverhead-Deerlodge, Helena, Gallatin and Lewis & Clark NFs and the Bureau of Land Management's Butte and Lewistown districts. Montana Governor Marc Racicot will host a cutthroat trout workshop in September.

NATIONAL INTERPRETERS WORKSHOP will be October 22-26 in Billings, MT., at the Billings Plaza Holiday Inn.

\$81,374 IN COMMUNITY GRANTS awarded to counties in southwestern Montana. Farm bill grants are made under the provisions of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation & Trade Act of 1990. The program is administered through the Forest Service. On the Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF, awards were made to the city of Deer Lodge (\$23,200) in a matching grant to convert a 1921-vintage coal-fired steam boiler to natural gas; \$8,394 matching grant for a community building in Opportunity, MT; and a \$49,780 matching grant to nine counties to set up a recycling cooperative.

MAGRUDER ROAD CORRIDOR ROAD (N0.468) UPDATE: Red River RD, Elk City, ID, Nez Perce NF, reports four-wheel-drive vehicles can make it through from the west to Bargamin Creek. Vehicles pulling horse trailers should not attempt to turn around until they reach Poet Creek Road. Other vehicles can turn around at Burnt Knob. The Magruder Road No. 468 remains closed just past the Selway Bridge at the Magruder Crossing on the Bitterroot NF side. The road has been heavily damaged and the area is being assessed for repair work. The Paradise Road is accessible from the Montana side to allow rafters to float the Selway River. For current information, telephone the Red River RD, Nez Perce NF (208) 842-2255 and West Fork RD, Bitterroot NF (406) 821-3269.

BOULDER-WYMAN TIMBER SALE, in the Boulder Creek drainage, five miles northeast of Philipsburg, MT, in the Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF, is on 1,396 acres and involves 8.5 million

board feet of sawtimber and posts. Forest Supervisor Debbie Austin explained that "By harvesting a variety of ages of trees in this area, where there's been a lack of fire, we hope to bring the distribution of ages of the trees to something closer to natural. The timber sale decision was announced in the final environmental impact statement on the project.

VANDALISM ON ROAD INTO JACK CREEK TIMBER SALE: The Jack Creek sale is the third of nine timber sales planned for the Cove and Mallard areas of the Nez Perce NF. Ecosystem Planning & Operations Staff Officer Ihor Mereszczak said the vandalism has created safety hazards and caused resource damage on the road being constructed into the Jack Creek timber sale.

SUCTION DREDGING PROPOSED in the Tobacco Root Mountains, next to California Creek, 10 miles southeast of Sheridan, MT, Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF. The plan calls for dredging a ten-foot by ten-foot hole 25 feet from the creek. Zera Hunt, Magna, Utah, proposes using the hole as a settling pond for five days. The project would begin August 19 and end August 25.

PROPOSED LAND EXCHANGE: Moonlight Basin Ranch, Ennis, MT, is interested in pursuing a land trade with the Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF. Under the proposal, Moonlight Basin would first acquire two private parcels near the proposed Cave Mountain Research Natural Area and then trade them to the Forest Service in exchange for a parcel of National Forest land outside the Lee Metcalf Wilderness, near Big Sky ski area. The Forest Service parcel consists of about 310 acres.

CLEARWATER RD, NEZ PERCE NF, OPENS AREA TO FIREWOOD CUTTING, road No. 1862, site of former Honker timber sale. The area will be open to personal use (non-commercial) firewood cutting until August 18.

RESTRICTIONS PLACED ON PEASLEY CREEK ROAD, No. 469, Clearwater RD, Nez Perce NF, for health and safety due to logging traffic. The restriction applies to any type of motorized vehicle from midnight on Sunday to 6:00 p.m. on Friday each week. Log truck traffic will present a significant increase in the risk of an accident if mixed traffic uses the road. For details, telephone Mark Peterson, Clearwater RD (208) 983-1963.

THE 1997 WESTERN GOVERNORS' SUMMER CONFERENCE will be in Medora, North Dakota.

NEW WORLD MINE IN THE HANDS OF USDA: Whether to let the New World Mine operate will be decided in the office of the U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman, rather than by Forest Service officials in Montana. Glickman spokesman Jim Petterson said the Department decided the determination about the mine should be made in Glickman's office. "Given the level of public interest, the complexity of issues and the location next to Yellowstone, it needs the attention of people higher up," Petterson said.

HELENA NF SUPERVISOR'S OFFICE TO REMAIN OPEN: Cutbacks at the Helena NF headquarters will cost some jobs but will not result in the closing of the Forest Supervisor's office. "The regional forester decided consolidation (of Helena and Great Falls of-

fices) wasn't a first choice option," Helena NF Supervisor Tom Clifford told a meeting of Helena community leaders. Clifford said Regional Forester Hal Salwasser told forest supervisors in May to develop plans for responding to budget cuts. Clifford said the plan he developed calls for a 14-percent budget reduction that will eliminate 19 positions by 1998.

LEWIS & CLARK NF TO TRIM 10 STAFF JOBS: Gloria Flora, Supervisor of the Lewis & Clark NF, said nine of the 10 positions are from staff at the National Forest headquarters in Great Falls. Only one position will be cut on a ranger district, Flora explained. The Lewis & Clark NF now has 52 employees in its Great Falls office and 59 on ranger districts.

VOLUNTEERS RESTORING 62-YEAR-OLD LOOKOUT TOWER: Forest Service retiree Paul Wilson and five other volunteers and Forest Service employees are restoring the weathered, 62-year-old, one-room Arid lookout and privy north of Avery, Idaho, in the Panhandle NFs. The lookout is being restored for use as a summer rental. A canvas tent on the ridge below the 20-foot tower contains much of the crew's equipment, including generators, store, wrenches, rigging and nails to restore the aging sentinel.

ENTRANCE TO 10 MINES TO BE CLOSED near Clark Fork, Idaho, by Forest Service and the Silver Fields Mining Corp. This is really needed because it's a big reduction of human hazards. These old mines are potentially unsafe for anyone to be around. The mines date back to 1913 and once produced silver, lead and zinc, explained Jim Langdon, engineer, Idaho Panhandle NFs, Coeur d'Alene. Eventually, the Forest Service and Silver Fields Mining Corp., the current claim holder, plan to close all abandoned mines in the 2.5-million-acre Idaho Panhandle NFs.

Loggers, Forest Service Complimented for Work On Sandpoint RD Harvest



Sandpoint (Idaho) Ranger District, Panhandle NFs, has received a letter that compliments both the loggers and the Forest Service for their work on a timber harvest 15 miles northeast of Sandpoint.

Carol F. and Robert H. Wright, Kootenai, Idaho, said they wanted to write to express themselves "on the manner in which the logging crew that worked on the Grouse Creek harvest this past winter and, also, on the manner in which Forest Service personnel conducted themselves."

The Wrights reported that "the logging trucks and other equipment were in good repair. The drivers were skillful and both aware and considerate of the local traffic and showed concern for the safety of the residents."

"The drivers always announced themselves at each mile marker by CB radio—an act which was not matched by those residents who did not cooperate with the logging crew by investing in a CB radio for the benefit of everyone's safety."

"Roads were kept plowed and these were plowed wider than just the width of a single logging truck. There were more than a few instances when logging personnel stopped to tow one of us out of the side ditch. When the roads were damaged by the mid-winter floods, Forest Service personnel were quick to procure equipment to put the roads back in service — a benefit for all, particularly those residents who daily commute to work. We want to thank you... and convey our appreciation to the logging crew and the Forest Service personnel for their friendly attitude and professionalism."

Rocky Mountain RD Hosts Students' "Walk On The Wild Side"

by Patti Schwind, Lead Wilderness Ranger,
District Wilderness Education Coordinator,
Rocky Mountain RD, Choteau, MT,
Lewis & Clark NF.



LEAD WILDERNESS RANGER PATTI SCHWIND, at the Hannan Gulch Field Day, demonstrates with the aid of "Stella" the wooden horse, some of the low impact methods of using stock in wildernesses.

Photo by Carolyn Harsh.

School buses bounced up the road to Hannan Gulch in the Sun River Canyon west of Augusta on May 15th and 77 students jumped out the doors, filled with excitement, wonder, and enthusiasm for the day's activities.

The "Hannan Field Day" event was hosted by the Rocky Mountain Ranger District. Local fifth and sixth grade classes were invited to "take a walk on the wild side" and explore plants, wildlife, wilderness and artifacts along the Rocky Mountain Front. Students came from the Sun River Middle, Greenfield, Golden Ridge and Fairfield Schools.

Since the district doesn't have the personnel or resources available to visit every classroom, this field day allowed students to come to the resources in Hannan Gulch. The day began with a brief introduction of the presenters; then the four schools broke into groups to rotate through the different stations.

The first station was archeology. Archeologist Kelly Keim, from the Judith RD, Stanford, MT, used a game to introduce archeological concepts of culture, context, and conclusions. Students then considered how the game was like archeology and how human impacted actions, like metal detecting and point collecting, affect sites and analysis. They also saw "the good stuff", such as ancient spear points, arrowhead points and an atlatl (a

device for throwing a spear). Students were excited to show Kelly how to jazz up her next presentation with Nerf Atlatl Throwing.

At the second station, Lynne Dixon, Wilderness Education Specialist from the Flathead NFs, and Patti Schwind, Wilderness Education Coordinator and Wilderness Ranger, from the Rocky Mountain RD, coordinated their efforts in presenting wilderness concepts before hiking the students through the Wilderness Skills Trail. Students learned how to build a low-impact fire or use a fire blanket, ways to care for stock in the wilderness, how far 200' is from water sources and other valuable methods of minimizing impacts in a wildland setting.

Students then moved to the third station where Tom Flowers, Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks Game Warden was set up with the "Fur Bearers Box." The box was filled with furs and pelts of various predators and fur bearing animals of the Rocky Mountain Front. Tom also had on hand the legs and hooves of elk, big horn sheep, white and mule deer. During a discussion about nocturnal animals, students were asked when raccoons were most active? "During breeding" was the response from one curious student.

The fourth station, the last stop, was "Home On The Range." Plant ecologist

Wayne Phillips, from the Lewis & Clark NF SO, Great Falls, hiked the students around the meadow at Hannan Gulch to show them the wildflowers in bloom and explain their value. Students learned the values of the wildflowers, livestock grazing concerns and which plants are increasers and decreasers on impacted sites. They discussed the importance of weed-seed-free hay and each student was given handouts with illustrations and explanations of the common weeds found along the Rocky Mountain Front.

This was the 5th annual Hannan Field Day for the local schools. Feedback from students and teachers continues to be positive. Comments from the students ranged from "You're great teachers" and "THANKS for inviting us down to Hannan Gulch and teaching us about nature," to "Don't you want to come home with us on the bus!"

Despite all the crazy, unpredictable spring weather we experienced on the Rocky Mountain Front, the Hannan Field Day weather proved to be beautiful. Sawtooth Ridge and Castle Reef loomed over us all day.

We would like to thank all of those who presented and assisted in making this event another great success. We are looking forward to the students' return next spring.



MacDonald, Schmoyer-Weber, Choteau PRIDE Organization, Lewis & Clark NF Receive Awards

National Award for Choteau

Northern Regional Forester, Hal Salwasser, presented a national, 1994-1995, Rural Community Assistance award to the Choteau (Montana) PRIDE Organization at the February meeting of the Choteau Chamber of Commerce. Choteau PRIDE (Planning for Rural Independent Diversified Economy) was organized to improve the local economy through diversification.

Choteau's PRIDE Organization was selected from nominees in the Forest Service, other government agencies, private individuals and community groups. They were chosen in the Action category as an outstanding example of successful implementation of Forest Service strategy for rural community assistance.

The PRIDE Organization developed a community action plan to promote tourism. The plan entailed purchase of the Old Trail Museum, developing a visitor center/rest stop and developing Watchable Wildlife sites.

USDA Under Secretary Jim Lyons and Forest Service Chief Jack Ward Thomas sent their congratulations to Choteau PRIDE and the community for their out-

standing collaborative accomplishments in a community-based, community-oriented effort.

The Choteau PRIDE award was one of only four such national awards.

Jane Schmoyer-Weber

The Great Falls YWCA recently honored Jane Schmoyer-Weber, Lewis & Clark NF assistant forest planner, with a "Salute to Women" award for her outstanding contributions to the Great Falls community. Along with five other community leaders, Weber was recognized at a formal dinner presentation, where a slide show of the awardees' activities and contributions were featured. Weber's recognition was in the Arts and Communication category.

Engler Award to L & C NF

Lewis & Clark NF Supervisor Gloria Flora accepted the Great Falls Conservation Council's Engler Award recently on behalf of the employees of the Forest. The "Engler" is awarded to individuals and or-

ganizations who are leaders in management and preservation of public resources. Established by George Engler, the Conservation Council was organized to provide a forum for discussion of local, regional, and national conservation issues. Engler retired from the Lewis and Clark NF where he served as Forest Supervisor from 1967 through 1976.

Leah MacDonald

A \$200 scholarship from the Russell Country Sportsmen's Association has been awarded to Lewis & Clark NF Receptionist Leah MacDonald to attend the "Montana Outdoors-Woman" training, August 16-18, at Fishtail, Montana. MacDonald will attend sessions on outdoor first aid, dutch oven cooking, developing outdoor insights, and sharing the outdoors with children. Additional program topics include loons, animal talk and search dogs. This will be a fun-filled summer for Leah. She also traveled to the South (R-8) on a detail during the 1996 summer Olympics.



ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF
SILVICULTURE KEVIN O'HARA.

University of Montana photo.

UM Professor Receives R-1 Regional Forester's '96 Public Service Award

University of Montana Associate Professor of Silviculture Kevin O'Hara has received the Regional Forester's Honor Award for Public Service for his role in developing the "Continuing Education in Ecosystem Management" course for natural resource management.

O'Hara developed the course with Forest Service personnel and Penny Morgan of the University of Idaho.

Regional Forester Hal Salwasser said the course is unprecedented as a continu-

ing education effort because it combines the resources of varied organizations and academic disciplines to bring together virtually all natural resource managers for training in ecosystem management.

Thirty natural resource managers recently completed the course's four modules. The course will be offered again in 1997. For information about the course, telephone the UM Center for Continuing Education, (406) 243-4623.

USDA Names Dr. Mark Jensen National "Unsung Hero"

In a special ceremony at the U.S. Department of Agriculture in May, Dr. Mark E. Jensen, soil scientist, R-1 RO Ecosystem Assessment & Planning, received an Unsung Hero Award from USDA Deputy Secretary Richard Rominger.

He was one of seven USDA employees from five agencies to receive the award. Rominger, in presenting the award, said Jensen "is taking USDA's mission of protecting the land and serving the people into the 21st century."

"He understands that the vast resources and data collected by the USDA and various state agencies mean little unless we're all speaking the same language and the information flows freely between us and our partners in the community."

MARK E. JENSEN (second from left) receives USDA "Unsung Hero Award" from Deputy Secretary Richard Rominger for developing a computer program to speed the flow of information between Federal, State and private agencies on natural resources and ecosystem management. Jensen was accompanied by his wife, Seana, and Forest Service Chief Jack Ward Thomas.



"Mark led his team over mountains of red tape to develop one unified standard for talking about resources and ecosystem management. The computer software developed by his team represents an important coordination of activities between the Forest Service, the Natural Heritage Programs, and the Na-

ture Conservancy.

"Mark's work will help ensure that USDA is not a dinosaur of the past, but an agency for the future. Rominger said "The people we honor here today set the gold standard for public service. Their work for their country is not a 9-to-5 deal. It's a way of life."

Rondey E. Lay Retires: 28 Years With Forest Service

Rondey E. Lay, small engine mechanic, Missoula Aerial Fire Depot, retired in August after 28 1/2 years with the Forest Service. A native of Ryegate, MT, Lay first worked for the Forest Service in 1966 on the Sula (MT) RD, Bitterroot NF, as a member of an interregional hot shot fire crew. From 1967 through 1971 he served as a smokejumper at the Missoula Aerial Fire Depot. He was foreman of an interregional hot

shot fire crew, 1972-1975, on the Sula (MT) RD, Bitterroot NF. From 1976 to 1990, Lay served as a smokejumper at the Missoula Aerial Fire Depot. Since 1990 he has worked as a small engine mechanic at the Aerial Fire Depot.

Mr. & Mrs. (Toni) Lay will continue to make their home in Florence, MT.



WISE RIVER DISTRICT RANGER ED LEVERT and his friend "Parrot."

Wise River District Ranger Ed Levert Retires: 34 Years of Federal Service

Wise River (Montana) District Ranger Ed Levert has announced his retirement, effective August 3, after 34 years of Federal service. He has been district ranger for the Wise River RD, Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF, in southwestern Montana, for 15 years.

A native of Illinois, Levert attended Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Illinois, and started his Forest Service career on the Vienna (Illinois) Ranger District, Shawnee National Forest, in the Forest Service's Eastern Region.

Subsequent assignments included the Fisher River RD, Kootenai NF, in northwestern Montana; Colville (Washington) RD, Colville NF; Noxon (Montana) RD, Kaniksu NF; Trout Creek (Montana) RD, Kootenai NF; and the Libby (Montana) RD, Kootenai NF, 1975 to 1981. He has served as district ranger for the Wise River Ranger District since 1981.

Ed has three children, Jeff in Wise River, and Gary and Renee, both in Bozeman.

Ed and Teresa will make their retirement home in Libby, Montana. Levert's immediate retirement plans include managing several tree farms he owns, fishing and constructing a log cabin.

BEAVERHEAD-DEERLODGE NATIONAL FOREST**Awards & Promotions**

FEARS, DALE, accountant, RO, temporary promotion to B&F officer, Butte RD/SO Annex.

HAGUE, TERESA, resource assistant, SO, promotion

SULLIVAN, ROBERT, hydrologist, Butte RD/SO Annex, promotion to supervisory hydrologist, Winema NF, Region 6

Retirements

LEVERT, MARVIN E., district ranger, Wise River RD, retirement

BITTERROOT NATIONAL FOREST**Awards & Promotions**

ALEXANDER, JOE, range conservationist, Sula RD, promotion

CONNORS, PATRICK, welder training leader, Anaconda Job Corps Center, promotion

GIBSON, NANCY, assistant dispatcher, SO, promotion

KAHL, JIM, supply technician, Trapper Creek Job Corps Center, promotion to materials handler training leader

KANEY, JAMES, guidance counselor, Anaconda Job Corps Center, promotion to deputy center director, Trapper Creek Job Corps Center
SHELMERDINE, PHIL, forestry technician, Darby RD, temporary promotion to hot shot crew superintendent.

STEFFENSEN, DONNA, personnel officer, SO, promotion

WAGNER, TOM, district ranger, Darby/Stevensville RD, temporary promotion

WELDON, LESLIE, district ranger, Stevensville RD, promotion to forester, at Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry, Aberdeen, MD

WYANT, KRISTINA, teacher, Anaconda JCC, promotion

New Employees

COHEN, PAUL, cook, Trapper Creek JCC, career-conditional appointment

COUCHMAN, JAMES, cook, Trapper Creek JCC, career-conditional appointment

STANHOPE, CHRISTY, cook, Trapper Creek JCC, career-conditional appointment

Resignations/Retirements

COLE, STEVE, social services assistant, Trapper Creek Job Corps, retirement

PRIEST, KATHY, business management assistant, Darby Range District, resignation

CUSTER NATIONAL FOREST**Awards & Promotions**

FLOODMAN, MERVIN G., archeologist, McKenzie RD, temporary promotion

KEMPENICH, BRIAN L., rangeland management specialist, McKenzie RD, promotion

TIMCHAK, LAWRENCE A., district ranger, Judith RD, Lewis & Clark NF, promotion, minerals EIS co-team leader, SO

YANCY, SHANNON L., student trainee wildlife biologist, McKenzie RD, promotion

Reassignments/Transfers

VOLESKY, STEVEN A., civil engineer, McKenzie RD, reassignment, civil engineer, Medora RD

GALLATIN NATIONAL FOREST**Awards & Promotions**

Stein, Colleen, Computer Assistant, SO, career promotion

IDAHO PANHANDLE NATIONAL FOREST**New Employees**

LAVERDURE, MICHAEL, conversion to career conditional appointment, St. Joe RD

Awards & Promotions

MUELLER, CHARLENE, resource clerk, promotion, resource assistant, SO

Reassignments/Transfers

HINSON, DANIEL, lead forestry technician, Clearwater Ranger District, lead forestry technician, Bonners Ferry Ranger District.

Resignations

KLOOTWYK, NANCY, student trainee engineer, operations, resignation, SO

KOOTENAI NATIONAL FOREST**Awards & Promotions**

GREEN, JONATHON, student trainee computers, SO, promotion computer specialist

MAFFEI, THOMAS, forester, Libby RD, temporary promotion to timber management officer, SO

WERST, KURT, forestry technician, Cabinet RD, promotion

New Employees

GREEN, JONATHON, student trainee, SO, career conditional appointment

Reassignments/Transfers

UZOH, ROSANN, forestry technician, Three Rivers RD, reassignment, office automation assistant, RO.

KOOTENAI NATIONAL FORST (continued)**Resignations**

DAVIDSON, TAMRA, cartographic technician, SO TANIMOTO, PHILIP, wildlife biologist, SO

LOLO NATIONAL FOREST**Reassignments/Transfers**

ATKINS, DAVID, Ecologist, reassignment from SO to RO, CF & FHP

REGIONAL OFFICE**Awards & Promotions**

GAY, RANDALL, forester, F&R, promotion

Reassignments/Transfers

SLAGLE, JOHN, aircraft inspector, AFD, transfer from OAS, Boise, ID.

IN MEMORIAM

SETH J. DIAMOND, 34, died July 26 in an airplane crash in the Kootenai NF, southwest of Libby, MT. A native of Philadelphia, Diamond held a degree in anthropology from Duke University and a graduate degree in wildlife biology from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. He worked for the Forest Service, on the Lewis & Clark NF, as a wildlife biologist from 1988 to 1994. He received the U.S. Department of Agriculture's highest honor for developing an innovative project that utilized new technology to harvest timber in a manner that favored grizzly bears. He had worked for the Intermountain Forest Industry Association since 1994. Memorial gifts may be sent to the Seth J. Diamond Memorial Fund, c/o IFIA, N. 3731 Ramsey Road, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83814

WILLIAM J. FOX, 88, died July 28 in Missoula. He was born in Butte and graduated from the University of Washington (1931) with a degree in architecture. He served in the Navy Seabees in World War II. Fox worked for the Forest Service on the engineering staff in the Northern Region headquarters in Missoula. He later established the architectural firm of Fox, Ballas and Borrows and designed many public buildings and churches throughout Montana.

VERNA LORRAINE O'LAHEY, 38, died July 25 while working near the Cliff Lake Bench timber sale, Madison Ranger District, Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest. She had worked on several National Forests in Regions 1 and 4. O'Lahey, an experienced fire fighter and emergency medical technician, served as a fire fighter on the Wasatch-Cache NF in Utah, R-4, and as a medical aid station attendant in R-1. Survivors include three grown children, her mother, father, three sisters and two brothers. Her Forest Service friends have established a memorial fund to benefit her children. Contributions can be sent to: 1st Madison Valley Bank, c/o Verna Lorraine O'Lahey Memorial, Box 307, Ennis, MT 59729-0307.

ROBERT L. WOODWARD, 74, died July 26 in Libby, Montana. A native of Wisconsin, Woodward graduated from Libby High School in 1940 and served with the U.S. Coast Guard in World War II. From 1956 to 1972 he served as a fire control officer with the Forest Service in Libby.

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Recreational Use Alternatives Evaluated in Bob Marshall Complex

Suzanne Cable, a graduate student at the University of Montana, has completed an evaluation of alternative approaches for recreational use allocation in the Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex.

The joint venture research project, involving the Forest Service's Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute and the University of Montana, was submitted by

Cable as partial fulfillment of the requirements for a Master of Science degree at the University of Montana

"The allocation of recreation use in wilderness has challenged Forest Service managers in the Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex as well as other wilderness areas throughout the National Wilderness Preservation System for nearly two decades," Cable reports.

Her text reviews and evaluates approaches for allocating recreational use between the commercially outfitted, the institutionally outfitted and the nonoutfitted publics.

Eleven alternative approaches are comparatively evaluated to determine their ability to achieve eight wilderness allocation goals. The analysis results in a ranking of alternatives from best to worst.

"Although this evaluation has been conducted specifically for the Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex," Cable reports, "the information included is applicable to other wildernesses and wild land recreation areas throughout the United States."

Northern Region News is published by:

Public & Governmental Relations
USDA Forest Service
P.O. Box 7669
Missoula, MT 59807

Editor: Jud Moore
Personnel Information: Matt Gordon
Layout/Graphics: Carol Evans

NEWSLETTER GUIDELINES

The Northern Region News is published by the Public and Governmental Relations office for employees and retirees. The following are guidelines for submitting stories:

- Articles should feature Forest Service employees and retirees involved in Forest Service activities and projects.
- Articles must be concise and timely. All articles are subject to editing, and may not be used if outdated, inappropriate, or if space does not permit.
- Photos should be black and white, glossy prints with good contrast if possible.

Send articles to:

J. Moore: R01A (Data General) or
Jud Moore, Northern Region Public and
Governmental Relations office,
P.O. Box 7669, Missoula MT 59807.

The public affairs officer on your forest may want to preview articles before they are sent. If so, please follow that process.

20705/9993 33

Printed on Recycled Paper



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USDA Forest Service
Permit No. G-40

Official Use - Penalty for Private Use \$300

The Northern Region News
USDA Forest Service
P.O. Box 7669
Missoula, MT 59807